

1901 - - - - 1951

Golden Jubilee

OF THE

Town of Raymond, Alberta



June 30th, July 1st and 2nd, 1951

CONGRATULATIONS
RAYMOND

ON

50 YEARS OF PROGRESS



We Are Proud to Have Served

48 of the 50 Years



Raymond Mercantile
Company Limited

DRY GOODS
GROCERIES

LUMBER
HARDWARE

1901

1951

Golden Jubilee

OF THE

Town of Raymond, Alberta



JESSE KNIGHT, FOUNDER

June 30th, July 1st and 2nd, 1951

"MY BANK"
TO A MILLION CANADIANS



**Canada's
First Bank**

*. . . extends its heartiest
congratulations to the Town
of Raymond on the occasion
of its Golden Jubilee.*

BANK OF MONTREAL

Raymond Branch:
JAMES GRANT, Manager

**WORKING WITH CANADIANS IN EVERY WALK OF LIFE
SINCE 1817**

A Brief History of Raymond



Fifty years ago a truly great man, Jesse Knight, was riding on the train, in the vicinity of what was to become the town of Raymond, in company with Mr. C. A. Magrath. When he looked over the grass-covered prairie, a prairie where once the buffalo roamed and over which the old Fort Benton trail ran, tons of freight were carried from Montana to Lethbridge, his eyes feasted upon the scene and turning to Mr. Magrath he quietly remarked: "I can visualize a fine settlement there."

"Uncle" Jesse, as we all called him, had recently come in possession of considerable wealth. He claimed the Lord had shown him where to find it in the Tintic, Utah, mining district. He always gave the Lord credit for leading him to the rich bodies of ore, and maintained he was a steward to use this wealth for the building up of His Church and for doing good. He once said: "My means are the Lord's, to be used in the right way. I hope that I will never become selfish but that I will be blessed with wisdom to use my means as the Lord would have me use them." His unbounded generosity typified his devotion to this high ideal.

Charles McCarthy, Raymond's first Mayor, and Elder John W. Taylor, an apostle in the L.D.S. Church, both from Cardston, and both stalwarts in colonizing Raymond and district, visited Jesse Knight one day. Elder Taylor told him he had been authorized by the Church authorities to interest him in the colonization of Southern Alberta. The call was both startling and surprising to Jesse. Being the kind of man he was he wanted to ponder and pray before deciding. He soon became impressed and inspired that a great opportunity had been opened up for him to use some of his wealth in the "right way". Having reached a decision and with the co-operation of the Church and other interested parties and the support of his two sons, Ray and Will, he and the boys devoted all their energies and the needed money in fulfilling the call.

It was "Uncle" Jesse's intense desire to have the town site properly dedicated and to have in the deeds that the land was not to harbor a saloon or to be used for any immoral purpose. This was done. He wished it to be, in a sense, a protected sanctuary where families could be reared in religious and wholesome environment.

Wishing All Our Many
Friends and Customers
Heartiest Congratulations
on the

50th Anniversary

"The Store with the
Distinctive Labels"

**L. Cameron
& Co.**



Diamonds and Watches

**Gifts for Every
Occasion**

**Kresge Bldg.
Lethbridge, Alberta**

Congratulations

to Raymond's

50th Anniversary

Merrill Agencies

**Suite 13, Stafford Block
Lethbridge**

**Congratulations . . .
50th Anniversary**

**War Surplus
Store**

**"The Store That Saves
You Money"**

317 - 6th St. S., Lethbridge

**McArthur's
Ladies' Wear**

**"Where Style Conscious
Women Like to Shop"**

**Congratulations on Your
50th Anniversary**

**4th Ave. S. Lethbridge
Phone 2655**

Jensen's

Frozen Foods

3rd Ave. at 11th St. S.

Lethbridge

**Congratulations and
Best Wishes . . .**

**For Your
Continued Success**

Albert Shapiro

Smart Hat Shop

**Congratulations
To Raymond**



From Church History we read: "On August 11, 1901, in the forenoon, Apostle John W. Taylor, Jesse Knight, George H. Brimhall, Charles McCarthy and about 150 others gathered on the bare prairie on a spot where the Knight Sugar Company Factory was subsequently built and started the movement from which Raymond has been founded."

In the afternoon of the same day at 3 p.m. the congregation formed a circle around a huge buffalo skull where the town site was dedicated by President Charles Ora Card of the Alberta Stake. The town was named "Raymond" after Jesse Knight's eldest son, O. Raymond Knight, who dismissed the dedicatory services.



Home of Charles McCarthy, Raymond's First Mayor

From this time on Raymond grew with mushroom rapidity. Homes were springing up daily and it was difficult to get lumber and material fast enough to meet the demand of the settlers. On September 2, 1901, the George C. Munns family made history as they crossed the prairie in a covered wagon and set up a tent. Wm. Lamb, his wife and little son Floyd, landed September 4th and Hannah Gibb arrived September 5th in a covered wagon, with four of her nine children, in a raging blizzard. At this point it would not be right to proceed with our story without pausing to honor the heroic and untiring efforts of this good woman, who rode over frozen, bumpy prairie roads in 40 below zero weather to attend the sick. She brought hundreds of babies into this

**It's Alberta Pool
Elevators
for
Alberta Farmers**

SINCE 1914 Crystal Dairy Limited has helped to provide a convenient market for the dairy production of the Raymond district. For the same period, it is proud to have had an opportunity to market Crystal Ice Cream and Butter to Raymond people. THE Company and staff want to thank the community for its support and patronage.

**CRYSTAL
Dairy Ltd.
Lethbridge**

**Summit Lime
Works Limited
Lime and Limestone
Products**

Head Office:
Lethbridge, Alberta
Plant at:
Crownsnest, B.C.

We wish to commend the people of Raymond and district for the initiative shown and the continued efforts put forth during the past half century to build up Southern Alberta and make it a better place in which to live.

**THE ALBERTA
PACIFIC GRAIN
CO. (1943) LTD.**

An Alberta company serving and working in the interests of Alberta Farmers

Congratulations . . .

Town of Raymond's
50 Years

**PARKS LTD.
Cleaners
Lethbridge**

**Bon Ton
Shoe Store**

Lethbridge

**Congratulations on Your
50th Anniversary**

4th Ave. S. Phone 3784



Old Raymond Stake House, Removed in 1939 for New Stake House

world without the loss of one. She nursed four of her own sons with typhoid fever, for three months. The dear, tired mother would say uncomplainingly: "I just rest my head against the sick ones".

That fall Jesse Knight built a fence north of the townsite so that the teams and stock of the colonists could have free pasturage and not stray far away. He gave the job of plowing 3,000 acres of prairie sod to the settlers to help provide them with ready cash. The late Warren Depew had charge of this undertaking and it was he who plowed the first furrow.

The establishment of good homes, prosperous farms, adequate schools and churches were worthy goals these thrifty Raymond pioneers were seeking. F. B. Rolfsen built the first house September, 1901; Charles McCarthy built the first store and hotel and on November 3rd, the pioneers were called together in the same store by Elder J. W. Taylor for their first meeting. It was November 8th, same week, that President Card with his Counsellor, Thomas Duce, came down from Cardston to organize a ward here. J. W. Knight was chosen and unanimously sustained as Raymond's first Bishop. E. B. Hicks and Joseph Bevans was chosen Counsellors. George E. Court was Raymond's first chorister and after borrowing the Selman organ, held choir practise in the little parlor of his own home. "Uncle" Jesse, sensing the need of a Church for the newcomers built a little one-room place of worship and

Congratulations . . .

Raymond Citizens
on your

50th Anniversary

G. F. TOLLESTRUP

& Company

Construction

1815 - 3rd Ave. S.

Lethbridge

PHONE 4280

**THE BROADWAY
STORE**

Clothing for the Family

Yard Goods
Children's Wear
Lingerie
Men's Furnishings
Shoes

**Congratulations
from**

**Commercial Printers
& Office Outfitters**

Royal Typewriter
Sales & Service

Phone 2999 Lethbridge

**General Farm
Supplies**

Wishing You Well On
Your 50th Anniversary

1621 - 3rd Ave. S.

Lethbridge

Best Wishes and Success

To Raymond on Their
50th Anniversary

**Avenue
Shoe Store**

McFarland Bldg.
Lethbridge

LETHBRIDGE HOTEL

The House of Comfort

Lethbridge, Alberta

Congratulations to Raymond on your 50th Anniversary

presented it to the ward December 6, 1901. The writer recalls playing the organ in the little Church where the old-fashioned coal oil lamps gave light and the old coal heater warmth; where the handful of pioneers sat around as if in one big happy family circle.

1902 was a busy year. The din of hammering was heard day and night. Business places and new homes were going up in all directions. March was a very wet cold month. C. F. Tollestrup relates the following: "We were wending our way to Raymond in covered wagons, 65 of us all told. Upon arrival we were quartered in the Church using benches to partition off rooms for different families. Spreading our blankets over the benches we went to bed thankful for shelter from the cold."

At the close of 1903 the pioneers were quite well established. They had passed through the stages of hamlet and village and were incorporated as a town. The sugar factory was in operation; the wheels of the Raymond flour mill began to turn January 20, 1903. The new school house was completed. The Taylor Stake was organized August 30th. A new and larger church was being built. A neat Presbyterian church had been built. The Raymond Mercantile and King Bros. supplied the 1500 inhabitants with needed dry goods and groceries; and many other business houses were built. December 27, 1907, electric lights were turned on for the first time. Friday, April 23, 1909, was the grand opening of the new \$20,000 Opera House.

The experiences of these early pioneers were not all rosy. They were often without ready cash; they had to haul water in barrels on sleds and often the water would freeze solid which necessitated ice chopping. Coal oil lamps were used and yet these first settlers were friendly, happy and hopeful for a successful future.

It makes one proud to honor them fifty years after. It makes one proud to live in the land they conquered.

—Elizabeth E. King.



ONE OF RAYMOND'S FIRST'S

L. D. and Elizabeth King were the first missionaries to Alberta. They are the only remaining residents that were present at the time of organization of the Ward and M.I.A.

CONGRATULATIONS RAYMOND

STONE'S

**Congratulations
RAYMOND
On Your
50th Anniversary
BREWERTON'S
CAPITAL THEATRE**

**RAYMOND
CLEANERS
Congratulate
Raymond
on its
50th Anniversary**

**Congratulations
RAYMOND
On Your
50th Birthday
KARL WILDE
Dodge and De Soto
John Deere Dealer**

**Congratulations
On Raymond's
50th Anniversary
RALPH
TRANSPORT
"See Mutt"**

**Pure Milk Products
Pasteurized for Your
Protection
Hancock Dairy
PHONE 116
Growing with Raymond
For More Than 40 Years**

**We Celebrate the Past—
We Look Forward to a
Glorious Future With
Raymond
RAYMOND
AGENCIES
Phone 116
A Complete Insurance
Service**

The Raymond Stampede



Ray Knight, Father of the Rodeo in Canada

One of Raymond's most successful and famous activities, since her birth, has been her stampede.

"If these wild horses should get frightened and stampede . . . 'Stampede'! That is what we shall call our celebration," said the late Ray Knight, in the year 1902, as he and his cowboys were driving a bunch of their wildest horses to the small settlement of Raymond in order to stage the first stampede ever to be held in this country.

All ranches in the district were invited to send their top bronco riders to Raymond, in order to celebrate the 1st of July and to settle the old argument of which ranch had the best riders.

No prize money was paid, at this, the first stampede; all contestants riding just for the fun and glory (and a few side bets).

The celebration was held where the Hamp Witbeck home now stands, with the wild horses being snubbed to the horn of a saddle, blindfolded and saddled, the rider would climb aboard and they would turn him loose, with a couple of riders as hazers to try and head the horse and rider in the right direction.

BEST WISHES

**Raymond
Pharmacy**

P. W. COPE

Druggist & Stationer

Raymond, Alberta

**Congratulations
To Raymond on Her
50th Birthday**

JOHN HORVATH

Shoe Repairing

***We Are Proud
To Be Able
To Serve
Raymond***

**RAYMOND
COFFEE SHOP**

**PLEASE
PATRONIZE
OUR
ADERTISERS**

**We Salute Our
Town**

**HALL'S
BARBER SHOP**

**We Appreciate
Your Patronage**

**Congratulations
On Your 50th Birthday**

**Thompson
Furniture**

**Raymond, Alberta
Everything For
Your Home**

TRY US . . .

***For Lunches
and Meals***

YORK CAFE

**Congratulations
To Raymond**

**ROBERT HEGGIE
& SONS**

General Trucking

The first rider to try his luck was the late *DeLos Lund* (father of the family of Lund boys—all well-known rodeo performers, Clark Lund, one of the sons inheriting the arena directorship of the Raymond Stampede from Ray Knight. Other contesants were: Ray Knight, Ed. Corless, Dick Kinsey, Frank Falkner, Jim and Dave Austin.

The Raymond Stampede has been held as an annual event ever since, with the exception of the years of the Macleod and Cardston Jubilee celebrations, when our show was cancelled out of courtesy for our neighboring towns.

Little did Ray Knight and his cowboys realize at that time, that their bronco riding contest among the top riders of the different ranches, would take hold all over the country and develop into the sport that it is today—the only sport in the world where a contestant pays an entry fee out of his own pocket, in order to break his own neck.

—Rayo Woolf.

ONE OF RAYMOND'S FIRST'S

Jesse Nilsson was the first child born in Raymond, on December 11, 1901.



SOME FIRSTS OF 1901

Dedication of "First" Sugar Factory grounds—August 11th.

Dedication of Town-Site—August 11th (afternoon).

First arrival of machinery on Sugar Factory section—August 1st.

First to hold the plow for plowing up of 3,000 acres of prairie sod was Warren Depew.

First Building—a lean-to Blacksmith Shop—E. B. Hicks.

First House—F. B. Rolfson, owner.

First three families: Geo. C. Munn, Wm. Lamb and Hannah Gibb, arrived September 2nd, 4th and 5th.

**WE WISH TO CONGRATULATE RAYMOND
ON ITS 50th ANNIVERSARY**



**LETHBRIDGE CENTRAL
FEEDERS ASSOCIATION
LTD.**

**DEALERS, ORDER BUYERS
AND EXPORTERS**

Office Phones:
2891 and 3253

C. O. ASPLUND,
Supervisor,
Phone 4448

YOUR CO-OPERATIVE LIVESTOCK AGENCY

We salute those far-
sighted men and
women who had vision
and established
schools in the town
of Raymond
1901 - 1951

**RAYMOND
SCHOOL BOARD**

Sugar Beets Have Made
Raymond What It Is,
So

**CONGRATULATIONS
ON THIS
ANNIVERSARY**

**Raymond Sugar Beet
Growers' Association**

Civic Administration

RAYMOND'S PRESENT TOWN COUNCIL



Seated, left to right—Deputy Mayor Renon Pack, Mayor Jensen, W. W. Wilde.
Standing—A. Ralph, Bruce Galbraith, Howard Melchin, Lyman H. Jacobs.

Raymond was "incorporated" as a town with eleven hundred people, in the year 1903, while the country was still Northwest Territorial land.

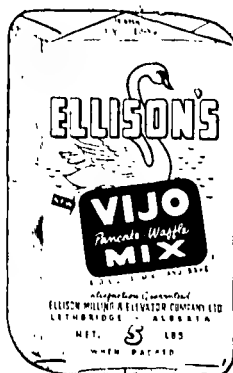
The late Charles McCarthy was elected as the first Mayor of Raymond, an office he held until 1906. It is said of Mayor McCarthy—"He could size a man up fast and tell you his worth".

T. O. King, R. H. McDuffee, E. B. Hicks, A. E. Moore, F. B. Rolfsen and C. W. Lamb, served on Raymond's first town council. T. J. O'Brien was engaged as the first secretary-treasurer and assessor, with R. O. Matheson auditor. Constable James Rodeback maintained law and order.

The first by-law the new council passed was respecting licenses regulating certain trades and business.

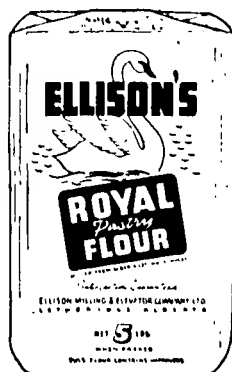
Raymond has had sixteen mayors: Charles McCarthy, George W. Green, Dr. J. H. Rivers, George H. Budd, B. S. Young, J. W. Evans, M. Y. Croxall, T. J. O'Brien, L. L. Pack, DeVoe Woolf, O. H. Snow, George E. Court, P. W. Pope, W. G. Meeks, S. I. May and the present mayor, William Jensen. They have been elected, not for show, but have been part of the workday world, and the route they have taken through the years has been one of progress.

**OUR CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
TOWN OF RAYMOND ON ITS
50TH ANNIVERSARY!**



As the oldest pioneer industry established in the town, where we commenced milling flour in the year 1903, we have been pleased to share in its growth, and to serve its residents with quality products and various facilities.

*We Recommend for
Lasting Satisfaction*



ELLISON MILLING & ELEVATOR COMPANY Ltd.

**Congratulations
RAYMOND**

**FROMM'S
JEWELLERY**

Gifts That Last

**FLOUR - GRAIN
FEEDS**

Domestic and Export

**PARRISH &
HEIMBECKER**

LIMITED

Export Office:

Toronto, Canada

Winnipeg, Calgary, Montreal

The Lethbridge Herald

offers their Congratulations
to Raymond on their
50th ANNIVERSARY

THE OLD - - -
TOWN HALL



- - - THE NEW
TOWN HALL

Early in its history new settlers were lured to the little prairie town of Raymond, which was laid out on the grand plan of the city of Paris, France, boulevards radiating from the center hub of Broadway (mainstreet of the town) like spokes of a wheel.

An irrigation project served the town's spacious lots, which were soon green with trees and lawns. To have a supply of good water for domestic use has been the plague of every mayor elected to office.

For many years water for domestic use was pumped into town from a well and distributed through main lines. The water was the hard alkali water of the prairies. The present water supply comes from a storage reservoir south of the town and is a big improvement over the old supply, both in quality and quantity.

During the early pioneer days, by-laws were passed and the town's civic government was placed in working order; public buildings were built and the first debenture was voted, the money to be used for road-work; also to construct a bridge over the canal, and to build a town jail.

With the passing of the pioneer years came great improvements. Fire in 1926 destroyed the greater part of the business section of town, which was rebuilt on a better scale. The sugar beet industry came to stay, bringing prosperity to Raymond's door.

During the hungry thirties when cash was hard to obtain, Raymond's mayor, the late William Meeks and his Council, introduced the

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE TOWN OF RAYMOND

On Their FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

Your town was founded upon the co-operative effort of the pioneers of 1901. The co-operative spirit is evident today in our farm movement as exemplified by their large co-operatives and our co-operative movement of which movement we are proud to be a part.

SOUTHERN ALBERTA O-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION LTD.

Cardston - Coaldale - Lethbridge - Picture Butte - Taber
Lethbridge Stock Yards

RAYMOND . . . *We Congratulate You* on your FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY and JUBILEE CELEBRATION

May we continue to enjoy the pleasure of serving
the people of Southern Alberta

IF IT'S HARDWARE—WE HAVE IT!

Gift Problems? . . . Visit Our China Giftware Dept.

Everything for the Sportsman—Second Floor

Exclusive Agents

FINDLAY RANGES

B.H. PAINTS and ENAMELS

Southern Alberta's growth has been our growth
and neither of us has stopped growing.

Consumers Hardware & Supply

M. F. Whimster

D. J. Whimster

use of "Scrip", which was used as a medium of exchange. Civic employees and business men, in full co-operation with town officials, accepted a small percent of their money in Raymond scrip, which was redeemed at the town office in payment for taxes, water, etc. In this way business was carried on and employees received their pay cheques.

The uncertain fifties have found Raymond on its Golden Jubilee financially strong, with a civic work program being carried on which to date has given its citizens a new sewer, new water supply with new water mains, new cement sidewalks and gravelled streets.

Mayor William Jensen is at the helm for his third term of office. Working with Mayor Jensen are six councilmen (no feminine touch has ever graced a Raymond town council) deputy mayor Renon Pack, W. W. Wilde, Lyman H. Jacobs; A. Ralph, Bruce Galbraith and Howard Melchin.



ONE OF RAYMOND'S FIRST'S

Chas. McCarthy, successful farmer and rancher, was Raymond's first Mayor in 1903. He also built the first store and hotel.

SOME FIRST'S OF 1901

First Meat Market—Wm. Wood.

First Church—One room, donated by Jesse Knight.

First Bishop—Jesse William Knight.

First Postmaster—Chas. McCarthy.

First Overseer—Henry Fairbanks.

First Dance—Held in upstairs of McCarthy's Store.

First Nurse—Hannah Gibb.

First Meeting held in McCarthy's Store, November 3rd.

First President of Y.W.M.I.A.—Alsina B. Holbrook.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Raymond
On Her
50th Anniversary

**FRITZ' FARM
SUPPLY**

Massey Harris
Phone 165 P.O. Box 157

**TO RAYMOND
BEST WISHES**

**Rasmussen
& Dahl**

Sturdie Gas and
Appliances
Phone 165 P.O. Box 157

CONGRATULATIONS RAYMOND

on your

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

DAHL MOTORS

MERCURY - LINCOLN - METEOR

Red Head Petroleum Products

Complete Automotive Service

J. I. Case Machinery

Congratulations . . .

RAYMOND

Mac's Service

'Where Service Is a Must'

Our Congratulations

To Raymond for
50 Golden Years

King Motors

Ford, Monarch Dealer
Phone 35

Congratulations
And Best Wishes
On Raymond's

Golden Anniversary

**SUGAR CITY
MOTORS**

Your Brake Specialists
Phone 7

BEST WISHES

To Raymond

A. J. Garner

Gas and Oils

Sports in the Early Days



Clifton Nalder, Wilford Meldrum, James Walker, Earl Stevens, DeVoe Woolf,
Archie Robins, Coach.

In the early days of our community there were no automobiles, no picture shows, no parks nor places where people could go to find amusement unless the amusement was produced by the people themselves.

As most of the people who settled this community were young, they were full of life and vigor, and activity was necessary in order to satisfy the desires of the community. Athletic activity was sponsored in many ways, such as baseball, soccer, football, lacross, basketball, track field events. Baseball was the outstanding event and many excellent players were developed. Among the early Raymond players that the writer can remember are: Roy and Clarence O'Brien, Steve, Albert and Kay Powell, J. W. Evans, T. W. Harris, Wm. Selman, Arthur and Roy Lee.

Exhibition games of baseball were played with the neighboring towns prior to 1904, but in that year a league was formed with the following teams entered: Raymond, Cardston, Magrath, Lethbridge and Stirling. Competition was very keen and practically every evening

**Anniversary Wishes
to Raymond
Drs. Walker,
Brewerton
Taylor**

**Congratulations
to the
"Sugar City"
on our
Jubilee Year
Broadway Store**

**Congratulations
Raymond
HAWKINS'
SERVICE
Gas -:- Oils
Phone 51**

**ENJOY THE JUBILEE
In a Pair of Well Fitted
Quality Shoes
from
BURNS'
SHOE STORE
Where You Get
Personalized Service**

**Congratulations . . .
to the
"Sugar City"
on its
Golden Jubilee**

**Canada Rock
Wool Sales**

**Approved Applicators
Established 1946
See A. L. TERRY**

**BEST WISHES
To Raymond
On Her
Celebration**

**Melchin Motors
Plymouth, Chrysler
Fargo**

Phone 171

every player was out to practice and when league games were played large numbers of fans would quit their work and hook their horses onto a wagon and follow the crowd. In 1905 Raymond sent a baseball team to Calgary to compete for the championship of Western Canada and placed third.

In the fall of 1903 a stámpede was held on the grounds where our stampedes are now held. At this sports day a large prize was given for the 100-yard dash in foot racing. Entries came from all over Western Canada and a large field entered the event. It was a beautiful race, most of the runners were pretty well grouped up to 50 yards but from there on it was an even race between a runner from British Columbia and our townsman, Charlie Kinsey. In the last few yards Kinsey pulled ahead and won the race. For those who do not know, Charley Kinsey competed at the world fair in this event.

Many good track and field men have come out of our town, such as Angus, Roy and Don Skouson, Spence Young, H. Mason, Jim Walker, Reed Kirkham, Roy Stone, Bruce Galbraith, Harris Walker, Cliff Scovill and many others.

Basketball was played in Western Canada for the first time in the year 1904. The first game having been played in Sterling, between Magrath and Stirling. That fall, at the Raymond Agricultural Fair, a large cup was offered to the winning team. The team representing Raymond in this competition was composed of Wm. Redd, David Galbraith, Bert Duke, Spence Young, Roy and Lee Fairbanks. There may have been others on the team but the writer does not remember their names. However, they lost the game to the Stirling team, which was composed of the following members: Ray and Lawrence Hardy, Saul and Fred Clark, Alex and Jim Walker. Stirling still has the cup in its possession. From that time until now Raymond has been one of the outstanding teams in Canada. The old timers will remember some of the following: Roy, Jim and Don Skouson, Lief Erickson, Wilford Meldrum, Earl Stevens, Cliff Nalder, Davoe Woolf, Jim Walker, Harry Fairbanks, Leonard Webster.

Among the names listed above you will find the names of the men who let Canada know that Raymond had a basketball team. Some of you will remember that the Edmonton 49'ers went from the Pacific Ocean to the Atlantic Ocean and played every team of importance and never lost a game. They were invited to play in Raymond on their return trip home and were soundly trounced by Meldrum, Nalder, Stevens, Walker, Woolf. Two weeks later they were given a drubbing by the same team.

Most of you know the history of this sport from then until now.

Soccer football was played frequently in the early days of Raymond. B. F. Keillor, principal of the school, was the leading light in this activity.

J. H. Walker.

**Congratulations to The
Town of Raymond
from**

Peterson's

Electrical Appliances
Records - Radio Repairs
322-7th St. S., Lethbridge

Congratulations . . .

To Raymond on Their
50th Anniversary

**Imperial
Women's Wear**

McFarland Bldg.
Lethbridge

Congratulations

. . . from . . .

**THE PARIS
of Montana**

Great Falls, Montana

**Congratulations
Raymond**

**on your
50th Anniversary**

**ANDERSON
Plumbing & Heating**
Phone 125 Raymond

Best Wishes from Your Radio Station

C J O C

In Lethbridge

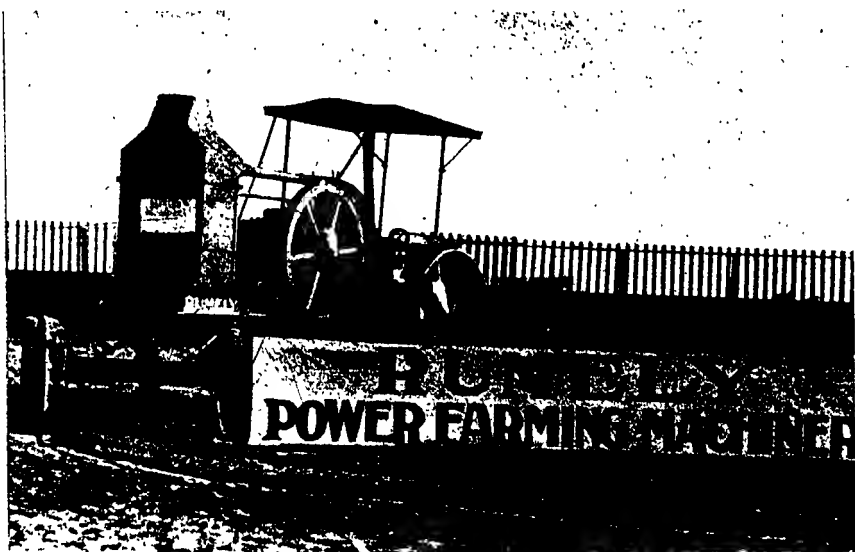
UNITED GRAIN GROWERS LTD.

Serving the Raymond District Since 1917

R. E. (ROY) DAHL, Local Agent

Agriculture

The story of Raymond and its agriculture is one of many changes. The early 1900's, with its great grass plains, made it a cattleman's paradise. But nature was fickle, so man and beast went to work—a canal was built to assure the needed moisture. With irrigation, new crops were added to that of grass and grain; sugar beets, alfalfa, potatoes, corn, and others. New settlers moved in with a horse and plow and each began to fence off his little kingdom. Fields of crops and cultivated land took the place of grass. Cattlemen were pushed to the hills. At harvest time threshing crews of 15 or 20 hungry men and twice as many horses moved in upon the farmer, threshed his crop and moved on to another.



Oil Pull Tractor won by J. H. Holmes for International Wheat Championship

Raymond was made known the world over in 1912 when Henry Holmes won the International Wheat Championship with a bushel of Marquis wheat raised on dry land. The prize was a Rumely oil pull tractor. These first gas tractors, were tons of slow, noisy iron works, but with development were by 1928 replacing horses at a rapid rate as a means of farm power. With the advent of the rubber tired tractor and implements to match, a new era was born in labor-saving devices, and agriculture was made more pleasant and farming more diversified. Quick detachable implements made it possible to plow the soil, stack the hay, cut the fodder, spread the manure, load the beets or thresh the peas. The walking plow has given place to the

hydraulic lift, the threshing crew to the one-man operated self-propelled combine. Rain is made to order by the sprinkler system. The cattle return from the hills to feedlots for winter feeding.

Raymond's agricultural development in the years to come will grow with the times. With rural electrification more people will live on their farms, better methods and better crops will be the theme for the years to come.

—W. G. Holmes.



First Sugar Beets Ploughed. Pick Out Will Wilde—If You Can.

CNE OF RAYMOND'S FIRST'S

The first boy born in Raymond was Raymond Holbrook, on March 16, 1902.



The Early '90s

In the early 1890's T. O. King came from Idaho to Canada via horse and wagon system of transportation. Later Margaret Helen Arborn King and Melvin came by train to Lethbridge. The buck-board journey from here to the R. W. Pilling ranch on the St. Mary River was negotiated without incident. Neither white man nor Indian was seen. No gate was gone through nor highway traversed.



Mr. and Mrs. T. O. King

T. O. King then moved his family to the C. Y. Ranch down the river, which ranch was owned by the Mormon Church. Later Mr. King homesteaded on a quarter-section of land some two miles east of Aetna on the St. Mary River. Money was scarce so the family moved to a dairy west of Kimball where T. O. King milked his 25 cows night and morning and did a day's work between times.

That summer enough logs were brought to build a one-room house on the homestead. A second-hand stove, bed and four chairs, together with dry goods boxes made up the furniture. A second log room was added and here Mabel King Heninger was born, also Louise King Fowler, Sara and Dorcas.

In 1903 the family moved to Raymond where Bent Rolfson had built the home now used by Wilford Heninger.

Life on the prairie ranches of those days was made up mainly of work. Neighbors were far apart. In cases of sickness the best one could do was to get help from the neighbor across or up the river. Recreation consisted of dances held in the church hall, probably a few times a year.

In Raymond T. O. King served on the Town Council for a number of years. For 18 years he was a member of the School Board, 15 of which he served as Provincial President of the Trustees' Association. Margaret H. King acted as President of the Relief Society for 37 years.

Three children were born in Raymond, Natrona K. Hall, Owen and Ross. The five-months old child, Dorcas, born at Kimball in March, 1903, died of whooping cough and was the first burial in the Raymond cemetery.



Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Paris arrived in Raymond in March, 1902, and are the earliest living married couple in Raymond.

SOME FIRST'S OF 19001

First President of Y.M.M.I.A.—E. B. Hicks.

First Superintendant of Sunday School—L. H. Holbrook.

First Baby to come to Raymond—Floyd Lamb, 13 months old.

Fifty Years of Progress

Our town is 50 years old—50 wonderful years of progress and improvement. I have lived on the same corner in this town for 46 of these years and have watched with interest the things that have happened to us and among us.

We like our town—in fact we are proud of her—not the ugly places of course, of which most towns have a few, but the attractive places and our wonderful people. A town is like a house which becomes a "home" with a "heap-o-livin'." This is "home" to us and we have done and are doing that "livin'."

When I came to town we didn't have a water system—we just packed and hauled the stuff that runs in pipes. Anyway strong backs are needed when things grow fast. We didn't have a sewer system or sidewalks, or gravelled roads. We did have irrigation though, thanks to the vision of great men among us, and with this priceless water we grew beautiful trees, shrubs, flowers, lawns and gardens. You won't go any place in the world and eat better peas or carrots or corn and many other vegetables that we grow in abundance.

We didn't have many good buildings when I came to town—no good-looking town hall as now; no big modern school buildings, as we are getting this year; no modern banks, hospitals, cold storage lockers, garages, dairies, cafes, municipal buildings, swimming pools, cleaning establishments, newspaper plants, theatres, stores, church, and elevators to hold our precious grain. We have all these things now and we are proud of them and the people who make them go and grow.

We had services and service organizations in the early days, but these have increased and improved over the years. We are grateful for our doctors, our dentists, our service clubs, our service organizations, our lights and power, our railway, our athletic teams, our teachers, our expanding irrigation systems and every other individual or service or organization that makes our lives richer and more pleasant.

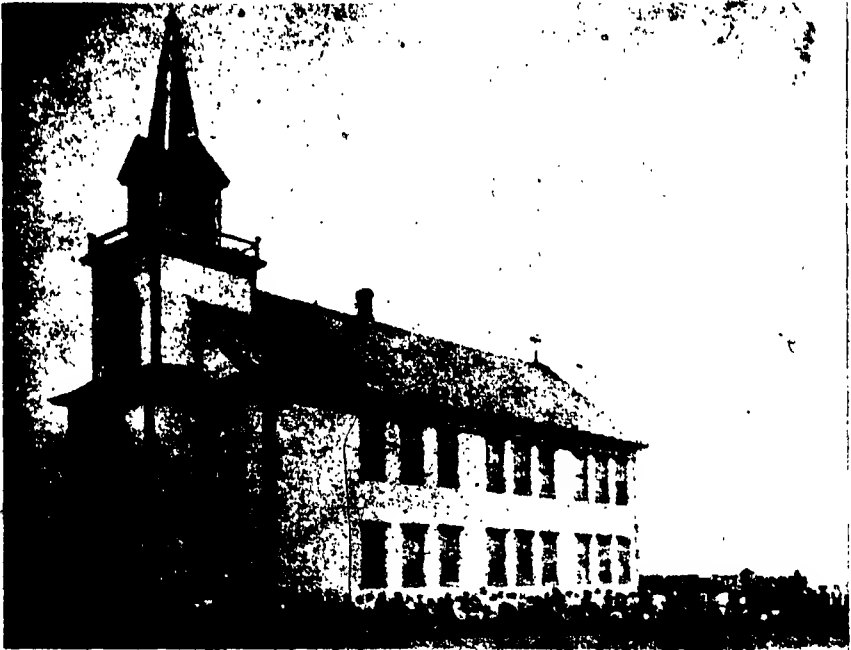
We must not forget our very important sugar business. Canadian Sugar Factories Ltd. have brought more wealth and security to us than any other one industry. We are looking forward to expansion in this wonderful industry too, as more acres are irrigated and we get more and wider markets to supply.

Anyone who kicks, with all these blessings, even at the weathers, is a very hard person to please. Let us thank God for His favors. Watch for greater things and let kindness mark our words and actions. If this be our motto, Raymond will go down in history and hold her own with the other great towns in this wonderful province, and in this mighty Dominion.

—John L. Allen.

Education

Just 50 years ago, construction on the frame school house, now Buddhist Temple, which for the then size of Raymond, showed either extreme ambition or an overwhelming concern, on the part of the founding fathers, for the welfare, educationally, of their children.



Raymond's First School

When the school opened in 1902, staffed entirely by eastern Canada teachers, Raymond was off, on the initial leg of an educational journey, which has been one of foresight and wholehearted leadership among the towns of southern Alberta. That this is no idle boast is attested by the fact that by 1910 we had outgrown the frame school on Broadway and had completed two fine school buildings—one the 12-room public school, completed of fire-proof brick and containing the first auditorium in any southern Alberta town; the second, the Knight Academy, under church sponsorship, opened its doors on October 17th and accommodated over two hundred young men and women, many over normal school age but who could not resist the urge to partake of an educational program which included such innovations as gymnasium, shop, domestic science and art departments, music, drama, science laboratory, all either the very first or among the first in this end of the



Raymond's Public School

province. This fine school carried on for eleven years, under the guidance of President H. S. Allen of the board and Ernest Bramwell, Thomas C. Romney and Asael Palmer as principals, providing such outstanding leadership in education and athletics that Raymond's name is still out in front.

Times and conditions change, the school district took over and as the Raymond High School, affectionately known as Raymond Hi to



Old Knight Academy, Now Raymond High School

hundreds of us. DeVoe Woolf was the first principal. The Provincial School of Agriculture, during the 1920's, provided an opportunity for our agricultural and irrigation minded generation, to become scientifically grounded in their lives.

In the intervening years, not only have our young people enjoyed these facilities, but have gone on to higher degrees, until now nearly all of our teachers and principals are home-grown and the rising generation need feel no embarrassment at the hands of teachers who may make fun of our "Yankee Twang", or "Southern Drawl."

Times and conditions change—the board now faces the necessity of providing new space for our growing population, education conscious and still determined that our sons and daughters shall not lack educational opportunity.

Soon another educational unit will be under construction.

Congratulations to our fathers of education for fifty years, and not one whit less to our present board, headed by Golden Snow, and not forgetting our teaching staff, patient, efficient and long suffering!

SOME FIRSTS OF 1902

First boy born here—Raymond Holbrook, March 16th.

First School—the present Buddhist Temple.

First School Teachers—Miss Middlemiss, Miss McLeod, Miss Scott.

First School Principal—B. F. Keillor.

First Church School—Knight Academy (first in Canada—1910)

First graduates of K.A.—Lura and Jesse Redd, June Nilsson and Don Skouson.

First Student to register at K.A.—Paul Redd.

First car—E. B. Hicks.

First Flour Mill—Built in 1902, in operation Jan., 1903—George W. Green, Manager.

First flour sacked by Leon C. Walton's father.

First flour purchased by Wm. Hobbs.

First wheat threshed by Heber Cole (Raymond's eldest citizen, 94 in 1951).

First Photographer—John Fairbanks.

First Doctor—J. H. Rivers.

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Hard Winters

Raymond streets are bleak and bitter this late winter afternoon. Cars, huddled at the curb, are sending out smoky plumes of exhaust. A few people scurry from store to store, wrapped up to the eyebrows, yet unable to insulate themselves against the piercing, bone-biting cold.

Inside, eyeglasses steam over as the warmer air strikes them. Then, oh heartening sound—someone says: "Just heard over the radio that the cold snap's due to break tomorrow. Chinook's on the way. Hope she don't freeze up at Pincher like last time, eh?"

Fervently you hope she won't. As you drive home you scan the western sky anxiously for the nebulous softening of the steely gray. You see dimly off there, the faint outline of the pale blue arch which may mean warmer weather tomorrow.

And so it goes. Here in Southern Alberta, cold snaps are usually short, even if severe sometimes. There is always the hope of a chinook, balmy blessing of our erratic winter climate.

In spite of this, we have had some mighty cold winters, as our old-timers can testify. Yes, sir, some mighty cold winters.

Take the winter of 1902. Jim Meeks, pioneer stockman, can tell you plenty about that. He can describe the long, hard battle against the cold from January on through till March; settlers living in tents and shacks, and the cattle, brought from Utah, showing the pinch of the rigors of a northern winter.

Then, later in May, came the memorable May snow-storm. It started innocently enough, with falling rain on Saturday, May 16th, about three o'clock in the afternoon. By nine o'clock it had turned into a raging snow-storm which lashed the open range for four days, driving cattle and horses before it. Men sought their tents and shacks and stayed there for as long as ten days. A few who tried to travel were hopelessly lost and struggled through deep snow as high as the horses' bellies until they were either rescued, or found shelter for themselves.

The plight of the livestock was pitiful. They had drifted before the blizzard and countless numbers died. The survivors were in poor condition and the calf crop was only about forty-percent of normal.

The winter of 1906-1907 deserves a place in the saga of hard winters. The fall had been so bad that no round-up of cattle had been possible. As a result they had already begun drifting before winter set in earnest. By the end of December they had already experienced what might have been considered a cold winter, many dying before Christmas, but much worse was to come.

January was ushered in with heavy snows and bitter cold. Two feet of snow lay on the level prairie. With no feed to be had, some of the cattle wandered as far south as the Marias river in Montana. They could only be brought back by train, or trailed up the railroad tracks. The coming of March finally brought spring to the struggling little community of Raymond.

It was not until 1919-1920 though, that our pioneer ranchmen really found out what winter could do to their prospects. Two dry years preceding had left the country short of feed. When the cold weather started on October 3rd, everyone thought it was just a little bluster and that Indian summer would follow.

Week after week passed, with no relenting of the icy grip upon the land. Through November and December, and with the exception of a mild two weeks' spell in January, the cold continued until the 9th of May. Seven long months of ice and snow. Months in which the few stacks of feed were exhausted and more shipped in. Months in which cattle, freezing and starving, left trails of blood upon the crusted snow. They froze to death in coulees and fence corners and their frozen carcasses were not found until May. Those which lived till the round-up for July dipping were found to be emaciated bags of bones, with frozen ears, feet, legs and tails. Their owners were saddled with a burden of debt which took years to throw off.

But then, as now, hope revived and spirits soared with the return of spring. Miraculously, it seemed, the hills were lush and green, studded with crocuses. The song of the meadow lark echoed in the hearts of the settlers as they worked and hoped, planning for the years ahead.

Irene Minion.



Wm. Lamb was the only married man at the time of the founding of Raymond who is still with us.

First Baseball organized in 1902.

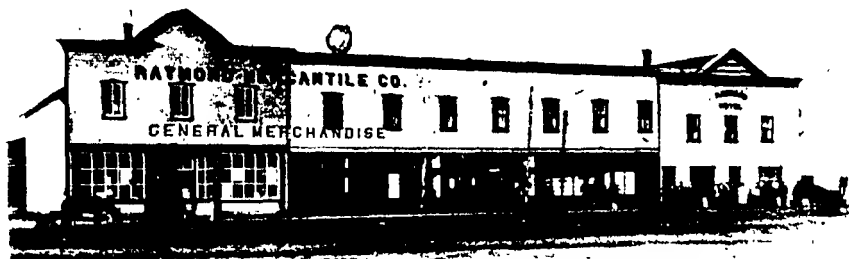
First Brick House—J. F. Anderson.

First Plumber—Wm. Paris

The Fall of 1901

In the early fall of 1901, a rider, looking for stray cattle, saw from the top of a hill, a group of tents on the flat to the south. Another town was in the making.

To meet the needs of the settlers, work commenced the second week in September, on a general store and hotel, both owned and operated by Charles McCarthy. These buildings were on the west side of the street on the block north of the centre of town. Behind the hotel was a livery stable, very important in those pre-car days. William Wood opened a butcher shop a little further north, and Harry Jones began a restaurant in his home but this was later moved to a small building across from the Mercantile. These businesses were all operating by Christmas of 1901.



Raymond Mercantile and Hotel, Burned in 1926

1902 saw a large influx of settlers and the needs of the town grew. Between the store and the hotel Russel McDuffy had a drug store, and the Bank of Montreal opened for business. King Brothers—L. D. and T. O.—built a general store on the block above the town centre. Beside them, on the north, J. O. Chance opened a grocery store. The town seemed to be moving both ways. Frank Fairbanks had a store where the Broadway now stands. Across the corner, William Cooper, William Lamb and William Paris opened a business, hardware, carpentry, tin-smithing and lumber. They also had the agency for Massey-Harris Implements. The lumber yard passed on to Mr. Rogers. Chas. McCarty also had a lumber business at the north end of main street. West of the Fairbanks store was a blacksmith shop, proprietor, John Hyde. This was the second one—the first being operated by Eph. Hicks.

As the years passed the town and its places of business expanded. 1903 saw Raymond with its first newspaper. The building was near the site of the present Legion Hall. Sanders was the owner and R. O. Matheson was the Editor. Spudel and Turner began another butcher shop just beyond the newspaper office. In the south end of town H. E. Kelly had an implement business just north of Chance's grocery store.

By 1904 changes had taken place in the business district and the changes continued through the years. H. S. Allen acquired the Raymond Mercantile the fall before. The Kelly Implements building became Raymond's first picture show house, and was run by Ernest Stark and later passed into the hands of the Brewertons who have had the movie business in Raymond ever since.

William Cooper became sole owner of the hardware business and this business later became the home of O'Brien-Nalder General Store. Today, the same premises, much improved, is the Graham Motors and Machine Business.

The Bank of Montreal moved to their new large brick building and remained there until recently when they moved back again to nearly their original site.

By 1906 other business men had arrived. A store called the Beehive opened its doors a little to the east of the town centre. Later this building served as a blacksmith shop for Jack and Charley Mehew. Cards began a livery stable in 1906 and a year later purchased the Raymond Hotel.

In 1908 the Security Building was erected. The store was operated originally by the Hub Co., with Chas. Brewerton as manager. Other owners have been: D. A. Bennett, Brewerton Brothers and today the Fairbanks Brothers.

The automobile business was pioneered by Zeb Skouson and today Raymond has twelve garages and service stations along its streets.

As years have moved along many, many businesses have begun. Some have stayed but most have changed hands or ceased to exist.

Organ's Harness Shop and Saddlery was a town fixture some time ago. Our Chinese citizens have kept our town supplied with restaurants and cafes. Recent merchants and businessmen along our streets are: W. C. Stone and Sons, Mose Fromm, Delbert Thompson, Percy Cope, Owen Larsen, Fritz Dahl, Greeps, George Turner and Henry Piegrass. Barbers through the years have been: Dewey Smith, Tommy Ott, Frank Hall, Gerry Witbeck, Velv Heggie and Max. Our shoes have been mended by George Organ, Mr. Wixom, Alma Betts, John Horvath and Ken Williams.

Fifty years have come and gone, and during that time the businessmen of our community have provided us well with goods and services according to our changing needs.

—Inez Hicken.

First Bakery—H. A. Jones.

First Barber Shop—P. Betts.

First Twin Boys—Donald and Joseph Nilsson.

Pioneer Tales

Well folks, do you remember the "May Snow Storm?" Sid Swazy was looking after a herd of Ray Knight's sheep out on the ridge. After the storm was over he sent this cryptic message: "Ray, sheep disappeared. Send another herd!"

Will Wilde was riding for the Sugar Co., in the wet Spring of 1902. He was living with his father, brother-in-law Tuey Peterson, and sister Millie, in a "dug-out" just west of the H. S. Allen residence. One night will came home after a 48-hour downpour and found Millie in her bathing suit swimming around in the kitchen looking for her mop rag.

Then there was John T. Heninger with his Model T, trained to jump irrigation ditches. But John had one surprising experience with said Model T. He didn't have time to remove a cable attached to the back of the car, used for towing, and dashed across Pot Hole bridge. The cable caught in the bridge and—you guessed it—John went through the windshield.

Christian D. Peterson and his brother were threshing a field of extremely smutty wheat up south of Welling. C. D. and his brother were feeding and band cutting, as was the custome in those days, standing upon the table in front of the separator, when an explosion occurred which blew them backward to the ground. When they opened their eyes they thought they were seeing stars but it was just their threshing rig going up in smoke.

Aaron Johnson was Raymond's first dentist. His kit consisted of a hammer, punch and a pair of forceps. In the fall of 1902 we were threshing near Aarons home when one of the men, John Tuckett by name, was seized with a violent tooth ache. Aaron came to the rescue. John sat down on a sack of wheat and Aaron applied the forceps. John was small, Aaron was large and the tooth refused to co-operate. So on the third time around Aaron yelled: "Grab him boys!" and they did, leaving Aaron with the tooth and returning John to terra-firma.

Then you have all heard Will Lamb tell of the time, that first winter, when he started for Magrath in a bob sleigh for vegetables. Half way over he met the Chinook, and in his own words: "I turned around and drove for Raymond as fast as I could and, you won't believe it, but my front bobs were on the snow and the back ones in the mud all the way home."

Son long, folks! If space permitted we could tell you about Will Zeinp milking Orton Piepgrass' cow, thinking it was his own, or George Fairbanks working Frank Coffin's horses, with the same thoughts—but we forbear.

—T. T. Mendenhall.

The Canadian Legion



Canadian Legion Hall, Raymond

On the occasion of their Golden Jubilee we salute the Town of Raymond; we salute the people of Raymond, especially those gallant men, women and children who pioneered into this district at the turn of the Century; who through their perseverance and long suffering, founded what is now our fair town. They may well be proud of the progress the community has shown. Raymond stands today an important industrial, agricultural, religious and educational centre.

The Raymond branch of the Canadian Legion, B.E.S.L., is proud to have played some small part in the development of the town. Organized in 1925 the Legion Branch has shown steady progress. Through the efforts of the Legion there now stands in town a memorial to the dead of each of two World Wars.

During World War II, 287 of our native sons and daughters served in His Majesty's armed services, 14 of this number having made the supreme sacrifice.

As an organization we are rightly proud of the community in which we live and of the freedoms we enjoy. We will spare no effort to keep it ever thus.

The Executive & Members,
Canadian Legion, B.E.S.L.

Our Church Life

SACRED HEART CHURCH



"Go into the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." For centuries after Christ had issued this command, the apostles and their constantly growing army of successors carried the word to the four corners of the world. They brought it to Raymond.

Immigrants from the Catholic countries of Europe flocked in ever-increasing numbers to Raymond. Although there was a Church in Lethbridge, those were not the "come with me in my merry Oldsmobile" days; so it became evident that a church was necessary closer to home. With financial aid from the Bishop in Calgary, and with manual labor provid-

ed by the future parishoners, construction on the Church began in the early Spring of 1927.

The Church was dedicated by the Most Rev. J. T. Kidd, Bishop of Calgary, on June 14th, 1927. It was called the Church of the Sacred Heart. The first priest, Father Fabre, attended to the spiritual care of his flock of 300 people.

The shrine of the Lady of Lourdes and the side altar were added by Father McGuiness in 1932. The large mission cross was erected in 1933, commemorating the first mission held in the new Church.

The parish priests have been Father Fabre, Father Hyatt, Father Foote, Father McGuiness, Father Duplanil and Father Sullivan.

The congregation has changed many times, priests have come and gone, but the Church remains, a living monument to the Eternal Father.

Father R. Sullivan.

THE UNITED CHURCH

The United Church was built sometime prior to 1907. Located on the prairie, southwest of town, it served as a church for some 25 years until the church board moved it to its present location. The old manse, which was sold when the church was moved, is part of the house where Mr. Harker now lives.



Five years ago need for increased room led to the building of a big kitchen and another classroom. Sunday school attendance rose steadily to 60, church service to 75, now a young people's group of 18 has been formed and there is still need for more room. A new 30x60 ft. addition, costing \$8,000, will be built, to give more seating capacity and provide a recreation hall.

J. D. Hall.

JAPANESE RELIGION



Buddhism is a religion, a philosophy and a society. Such a society,

Bukkyokai, was organized for the Raymond Buddhists on July 15, 1929. That fall Mr. Hatanaka and Mr. Hironaka arranged to buy the old Second Ward Chapel and the next spring Rev. Nagatomi came from Japan as the first Buddhist minister.

Twenty-two years later, through depression, war and world tension, the society is still growing. A co-operative to import goods and sell merchandise was added. The new

generation grew up and were married here. Toshiko Tanaka was the first bride. Here was the social and spiritual centre of the Japanese people of this district.

In 1934, came Rev. Kawamura. In 1942 Rev. Ikuta arrived, with the B.C. Japanese, to act as spiritual leader. The membership grew; social life expanded and the old church was filled to capacity.

April 8th, the birthday of Buddha, was celebrated with beautiful floral decorations, images and suitable ceremony.

The building has been repaired, remodelled and painted inside and out, and remains a tribute to the hard working people who did so.

—Misae Hiranako and Ayako Sugimoto.

L.D.S. CHURCHES



Second and Third Ward Chapel

The first meeting of the Latter Day Saints in Raymond was called by Apostle John W. Taylor, and was held in Chas. McCarty's (Mercantile) store, November 3rd, 1901.

On November 8th, 1901, President Charles Ora Card of the Alberta Stake and his Counsellor, Thos. Duce, came down from Cardston to organize the Raymond Ward. J. William Knight was chosen and sustained as the first Bishop with Joseph Bevan and Ephriam Hicks as Counsellors.

On December 8th, Mrs. L. H. Holbrook was sustained as President of the first Y.L.M.I.A., and E. B. Hicks as President of the Y.M.M.I.A.

The first Relief Society and Primary organizations were effected in the spring of 1902.

The Taylor Stake was organized August 30th, 1903, with H. S. Allen as President and Theodore Brandley and J. W. Knight as Counsellors. H. S. Allen was followed in 1936 by T. Geo. Wood and Pres. Wood by J. H. Walker in 1947.

The Rayntond Ward was divided June 16th, 1912, with John F. Anderson as Bishop of the First Ward and J. W. Evans as Bishop of the 2nd Ward.

The two Raymond Wards were divided in October, 1947, with the following Bishops:

J. O. Hicken	First Ward
William Jensen	Second Ward
Rulon Dahl	Third Ward
J. G. Snow	Fourth Ward

The first Church School was established in 1910 with Ernest Bramwell as the first Principal.



Stake House and First and Fourth Ward Chapel

SOME FIRST'S OF 1903

Town Incorporated.

First Mayor—Chas. McCarthy.

First Town Council—A. E. Moore, T. O. King, Wm. Lamb, R. H. McDuffee, F. B. Rolfsen and E. B. Hicks.

First Local Paper—The Chronicle—R. O. Mathewson, Editor.

First School Board—Jos. Bevan, Arthur Dahl and Geo. W. Green, Wm. Cooper, Chairman.

First Stampede in Raymond and in Canada.

First Chorister and Dramatic Coach—Geo. E. Court.

Sugar and Raymond

The development of the beet industry in Alberta has followed closely the pattern of many other areas. The first factory was built in Raymond and moved away because of improper timing and unfavorable economic conditions. Subsequent attempts later were made successful by improved methods, changes of population, land developments and markets.

In January, 1901, Jesse Knight of Provo, Utah, sent his two sons, Ray and Will, into Alberta to investigate ranching possibilities. As the result of their favorable report, Mr. Knight visited Alberta in March of 1901—and in connection with the purchase of 256,000 acres of land from the Alberta Railway and Irrigation Co. agreed to construct and operate a sugar factory for 12 years.

The site for the plant was selected on August 11, 1901. The Knight Sugar Company was organized in 1902 with a paid-up capital of \$1,000,000, authorized to carry on ranching and farming as well as sugar making.

Two thousand immigrants with their goods and chattels, principally from Utah, arrived by the spring of 1903 to help grow the beets



First Sugar Factory

and establish the town of Raymond, the townsite having been selected and named the same day as the factory site.

The plant of 400-ton capacity was erected in 1903 in time to process the beet crop. It consisted of the main building, a brick structure 80' x 280' with additions of boiler house, lime kiln, warehouse and machine shop. Also five sheds for storing beets with a capacity of 8,000 tons. 2,600 acres of beets were planted by the Company with almost an equal acreage by the new settlers.

The preparations for beets consisted principally of virgin sod broken in the fall of 1901 or the spring of 1902. Much of this land was planted to wheat in 1902 so that when beets emerged in the spring of 1903 it was difficult to determine which would be the best revenue producer—beets or the volunteer wheat. In spite of farmers, working into late July to thin the beets, many beet fields were left to grow volunteer wheat and the yields were quite satisfactory.

The Knight Sugar Company's ranching business was very extensive. They employed 165 men in the fields and farmers in the summer months, wages being \$50.00 per month and board or \$1.75 per day. In the factory campaign about 130 men were hired at a wage of \$2.00 per day.

The Company kept 13,000 cattle on the ranches, largely Hereford grades, and 2,000 horses. Most of the cattle were sold off the grass, but about 1,000 head were brought in each fall and finished on hay and beet pulp. These were chiefly four-year-olds which went on the market at about 1,400 lbs. each.

Mr. E. P. Ellison was general manager of the Company with A. H. Williams as Factory Superintendent and Chemist, T. J. O'Brien Chief Agriculturist, and J. W. Evans Accountant.

The production of sugar beets was beset with many difficulties arising from the rigorous and unpredictable Alberta climate. Many other factors militated against beets, almost too numerous to mention, but they can all be summed up in the fact that the country was not ready for beets.

The factory was maintained in production from 1903-1913, when production became too small to justify further operations. The machinery was dismantled and moved to Cornish, Utah, in 1915. Later this plant was also closed and the machinery taken to Missoula, Montana, where some of it may still be found making sugar.

In 1923-24 a movement was inaugurated to secure a Sugar Factory for Southern Alberta. The Raymond and Magrath Boards of Trade, the Irrigation District Boards, etc., headed by James H. Walker, President; John F. Anderson, Secretary, with Charles McCarty, John F. Salmon, T. J. O'Brien, C. W. Lamb, J. W. Evans, as committee men,



Raymond Sugar Factory

also Louis Brandley representing Stirling, Ernest Bennion, Levi Har-ker from Magrath, and many others too numerous to include here, concentrated on this venture—and venture it proved to be in the first years of the new Company's experience.

The preliminary efforts and beet trials of 1923 and 1924 converted the Utah-Idaho Sugar Company to the possibility of growing beets in Alberta, so they decided to move their Sunnyside, Washington, plant of 600-ton capacity—which had been idle for six seasons—to Raymond, onto a site only 300 yards north of the foundations of the pioneer factory of which the sugar warehouse, machine shop, barns, outbuildings, etc., were still intact.

The spring of 1925 saw a new flow of settlers from the south, arriving along with trainloads of sugar machinery. The site had been previously selected for its convenience to water supply and rail lines, and also because Raymond and vicinity had agreed to furnish an ample supply of the raw product, sugar beets, which was a first consideration.

The factory of the new Company—Canadian Sugar Factories Ltd., after much difficulty with wet weather, mud roads and team transportation, was officially opened on October 19th, 1925. The first campaign was completed on December 15th after rain, snow and

freezing weather in September and October had made the beets difficult and almost unfit for sugar making, and the Company suffered heavy losses resulting from spoilage and low sugar content. However, 41,465 tons of beets were received from 5,394 acres of beets harvested out of 6,649 acres planted and 7,232 contracted. 75,445 bags of sugar were produced. Farmers received \$5.90 per ton for their beets.

The operating staff in 1925 was headed by T. Geo. Wood, Manager; F. R. Taylor, Agric. Supt.; C. R. Wing, Factory Supt.; H. F. Hodge, Cashier.

Consistent progress was made thereafter from year to year in beet and sugar production, and in 1931 the Utah-Idaho Sugar Company of Salt Lake City sold the Raymond plant and stocks of sugar, to the B.C. Sugar Refining Company of Vancouver. Factory changes and agricultural developments since then improved the Raymond plant efficiency to the point that in 1934 the Raymond factory alone processed 175,066 tons of beets and made 530,986 100-lb. bags of sugar. This success laid the foundation for the building of the second factory at Picture Butte.

In 26 campaigns since 1925 the Raymond factory has made 9½ million bags of sugar valued at 52 million dollars, which has been added to the general wealth and business of the surrounding district. With the completion of the Taber plant in 1950, Alberta now has a daily capacity in three factories of around 5,500 tons of beets per day, thus proving the complete and successful culmination of the sugar factory ventures in Raymond of 1903 and 1925.

SOME FIRSTS OF 1903

First Radio bought by King and Green, with ear sets and loud speakers.

First electric lights turned on December 27th, 1907.

First opening of new \$20,000 Opera House April 23, 1909.

First division of Raymond Ward—June 16th, 1912.

First basketball was played in open air courts.

First Raymond Union Jacks—Organized in 1923.

First Marriage—Wm. Jensen and Kate Cunningham; 1903.

First Sugar Factory in Western Canada built in Raymond, 1903.

EATON'S of Lethbridge

Congratulations to the Town of Raymond
on the occasion of the celebration of its
"Golden Jubilee". Raymond may well be
proud of its progress and our neighbors
look forward to continued prosperity and
success.

EATON'S of Lethbridge salutes you.

THE **T. EATON CO.**
WESTERN LIMITED
LETHBRIDGE BRANCH

COLOURED

RAYMOND

Founded on Sugar

KNIGHT SUGAR COMPANY

1903 - 1914

CANADIAN SUGAR FACTORIES

1925 - 1951

SWEETNESS IS OUR LIVELIHOOD

We furnish more food energy from each acre
of sugar beets, than any other crop in Canada.

**CANADIAN SUGAR FACTORIES
LIMITED**

RAYMOND

PICTURE BUTTE

TABER